

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	CON.1540
Historic Name:	Blanchard, Arthur F. House
Common Name:	Bowse, Archibald L. House
Address:	17 Central St
City/Town:	Concord
Village/Neighborhood:	West Concord
Local No:	
Year Constructed:	c 1900
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	Queen Anne
Use(s):	Single Family Dwelling House
Significance:	Architecture
Area(s):	CON.F: Derby Addition CON.DG: Central - Pine Streetscape
Designation(s):	
Building Materials(s):	Roof: Asphalt Shingle Wall: Wood; Wood Clapboard; Wood Shingle Foundation: Concrete Unspecified



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc

This file was accessed on: Thursday, October 22, 2020 at 11:36 AM

FORM B – BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

2541

Maynard

F,
DG

CON.1540

Town/City: Concord

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):
West Concord

Address: 17 Central St.

Historic Name: Arthur F. Blanchard Rental House

Uses: Present: Single-family Residential

Original: Single-family Residential

Date of Construction: ca. 1900

Source: Historic Maps and Street Directories

Style/Form: Queen Anne

Architect/Builder:

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Parged Concrete

Wall/Trim: Wood Clapboards/Wood Shingles

Roof: Asphalt Shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

A late twentieth-century, one-story, two-car garage located southeast of the residence

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Replacement doors and windows - 1990.

Porch alterations and dormer addition - 2003.

Condition: Fair

Moved: no ☒ yes ☐ **Date:**

Acreage: .18 Acres

Setting: Located in a dense residential area adjacent to the village of Concord Junction, the business center of West Concord. The property is well landscaped with foundation plantings and mature trees.

Photograph



Locus Map



Recorded by: Geoffrey Melhuish

Organization: ttl-architects

Date (*month / year*): July 2013

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MASS. HIST. COMM.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

CONCORD

17 CENTRAL STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

F, DG

CON.1540

☒ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

Use as much space as necessary to complete the following entries, allowing text to flow onto additional continuation sheets.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

17 Central Street (CON.1540) is a two-and one-half story wood-frame front gable Queen Anne styled residence. The four-by-three bay building faces northwest and adopts an irregular plan on a foundation parged with concrete. The asymmetrical facade with wrap-around porch and use of decorative shingles in the gable is commonly found on properties constructed in the Queen Anne style. The residence is set back approximately twenty feet from the street on a level lot. The building terminates in a front gable roof sheathed with asphalt shingles. Decorative staggered shingles are featured in the gable. A full width shed roof dormer is featured on the east roof plane and an intersecting gable is located on the west. The building is clad with painted wood clapboards. A one-story, wrap-around porch is located on the front facing gable and continues down the west elevation. The porch terminates in a hipped roof sheathed with asphalt shingles. The roof of the porch is supported by classically inspired columns resting on a raised wood deck. Access is provided by an entry located at the west end of the facade. The door is a replacement. Two, 1/1 double-hung vinyl replacement windows are located to the east and one 1/1 double-hung vinyl replacement window is located to the west. All of the openings are highlighted by a simple wood surround. A one-story, two-car garage is located east of the residence. The garage is constructed of wood frame and is capped by a front gable roof sheathed with asphalt shingles. Although altered by replacement doors and windows, 17 Central Street maintains the form, fenestration, and details of an early twentieth century Queen Anne style residence constructed in West Concord.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

In 1874 the "Derby Addition" was laid out to the south of Concord Junction on approximately 35 acres of land owned by Benjamin Derby. Benjamin Derby's farmstead was originally located northeast of Main Street until the late 1960s.¹ It appears that Benjamin Derby "anticipated the demand for housing heralded by the 1874 act of the Massachusetts legislature that authorized the building of a new State Prison, just north of Concord Junction."²

Derby Street and the easternmost area of Central Street were the earliest areas heavily developed in the "Derby Addition". The area contains single family and double houses built between 1890 and 1910 as speculative housing by Reformatory Officers and local residents for resale and rental to employees of the Reformatory, nearby factories including the Boston Harness Company, the 1906 Allen Chair Company or the Fitchburg Railroad. Much of the south side of Central Street was owned and developed by lumber merchant, Arthur F. Blanchard.

17 Central Street (CON.1540) was constructed ca. 1900. In 1910, the property was the rental residence of Guy H. Elms (b 1882), a billing clerk for the railroad and his wife, Beatrice (b 1887). Between 1920 and 1940, the property was the residence of John A. MacWilliams (1861), a foreman for the railroad and his wife, Annie B. MacWilliams (b 1866). In 1947, the property was purchased by Archibald L. Bowse (b 1899), a house painter, and his wife, Dorothy.³ The Bowses' had been renting 10 Derby Street (17 Derby Street) in 1940. The Bowse family remained on Central Street until the residence was sold by their daughter, Virginia to the current owner, Jonathan A. Symons.⁴

¹ Anne Forbes, Massachusetts Historical Commission : The "Derby Addition" (CON.F) Concord Massachusetts. Concord, Mass: Concord Historical Commission, 1988. [Concord Free Public Library]

² Ibid

³ Middlesex South Registry of Deeds, Book 7099 Page 245.

⁴ Middlesex South Registry of Deeds, Book 35995 Page 256.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

CONCORD

17 CENTRAL STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

F, DG

CON.1540

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Street Directories: 1886, 1892, 1896, 1901, 1905/06, 1909/10, 1913, 1917, 1921, 1925, 1929, 1934, 1937, 1941, 1947, and 1950. [State Library of Massachusetts and online at <http://www.ancestry.com>.]

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INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

CONCORD

17 CENTRAL STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

F, DG

CON.1540

[Delete this page if no Criteria Statement is prepared]

National Register of Historic Places Criteria Statement Form

Check all that apply:

- ☐ Individually eligible ☒ Eligible **only** in a historic district
☒ Contributing to a potential historic district ☐ Potential historic district

Criteria: ☒ **A** ☐ **B** ☒ **C** ☐ **D**

Criteria Considerations: ☐ **A** ☐ **B** ☐ **C** ☐ **D** ☐ **E** ☐ **F** ☐ **G**

Statement of Significance by Geoffrey Melhuish

The criteria that are checked in the above sections must be justified here.

Although altered by replacement doors and windows, 17 Central Street maintains the form, fenestration, and details of an early twentieth century Queen Anne influenced Colonial Revival residence. The residence possesses a high degree of integrity of design, setting and workmanship. The property meets criterion A and C at the local level and would be a contributing property in a potential Historic District. Many of the homes along Derby Street and Central Street maintain a high degree of architectural integrity. Most of the buildings were constructed during the second half of the nineteenth century and the first quarter of the twentieth century and are historically significant for their association with the industrial and residential growth of Concord Junction in the last quarter of the nineteenth century and early twentieth century. Exact boundaries of a potential National Register District within this area remain to be determined; however the boundaries of a potential district might include the area defined by Main Street to the north, Derby Street to the east, Riverside Avenue and Pleasant Street to the south, West Street to the west and the section of Central Street within.